

**Seizure of Electronic Goods**

5015. SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:  
SHRI CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN:  
SHRI DATTATRAYA  
BANDARU:  
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:  
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNA-  
THRAO GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of smuggling electronic

goods seized during 1990-91 and the last four months;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the smuggling of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The value of smuggled electronic goods seized and the persons arrested during 1990-91 and the last four months are as follows.

Year	Value of goods seized (Rs. in crores)	No. of persons arrested.
1990—91.	56.26	109
Nov. '91 to Feb. '92	3.18*	4

\* Figure is provisional

\*\* Does not include persons arrested for smuggling in baggage cases

(c) The Customs authorities are vigilant against smuggling including that of electronic goods. Intelligence is targetted against such smuggling and field formations alerted suitably. Sophisticated equipments such as X-ray baggage machines are being increasingly used.

**Customs and Excise Duties Evasion by  
Pharmaceutical Units**

5016. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the pharmaceutical units which committed serious irregularities in regard to payment of customs and excise duties during the last one year;

(b) the amount of customs and excise duties evasion, separately, by each of these

units;

(c) the action taken against defaulting units particularly those in Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(d) the amount of penalty realised from each of these units; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e) . The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Export of Computers**

5017. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Computer is facing tough competition in export market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to boost export of computers to European markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons are as follows:-

(i) The high cost due to low volume production and imported inputs.

(ii) The difficulties in marketing in a field which is dominated by well-known brand names.

(iii) The rapid changes in technology which the local industry is unable to keep pace with.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by Government to boost exports of computers especially to European markets. They include visits by the industry to tap new markets in Europe, participation by trade in fairs abroad and encouragement of foreign collaboration.

#### **Development of Western Coastal Highways**

5018. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for development of western coastal highways;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to seek assistance from the Asian

Development Bank for development of these roads; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The demand for the road in question by the Maharashtra Govt. is basically for its inclusion in the National Highway network.

(c) Since the State Government of Maharashtra have not sent any proposal in this regard the Government is not contemplating at present to pose this State Road to the Asian Development Bank for funding.

#### **Catamarans for Bombay-Panaji Route**

5019. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies which were given permission for acquisition of high speed catamarans, for plying on the Bombay-Panaji route, have since acquired the same;

(b) if so, the time by which the catamarans are likely to start plying on the route; and

(c) if not, the further steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Government have given permission to the following three shipping companies for acquisition of catamarans for Bombay-Panaji route:-

1) M/s. Binkam Shipping Private Limited.